

United States Patent and Trademark Office

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/756,945	01/13/2004	Sergio Landau	ВЈТ 334А	3294
23581 7	7590 10/19/2005		EXAMINER	
KOLISCH HARTWELL, P.C.			HAYES, MICHAEL J	
520 S.W. YAN SUITE 200	MHILL STREET		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
PORTLAND, OR 97204			3767	

DATE MAILED: 10/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)			
	10/756,945	LANDAU ET AL.			
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit			
	Michael J. Hayes	3767			
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply					
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DA - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period w - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	ATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION 36(a). In no event, however, may a reply be tim will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from cause the application to become ABANDONE	l. lely filed the mailing date of this communication. D (35 U.S.C. § 133).			
Status					
1) ⊠ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 Ja 2a) □ This action is FINAL. 2b) ⊠ This 3) □ Since this application is in condition for allowar closed in accordance with the practice under E	action is non-final. nce except for formal matters, pro				
Disposition of Claims					
 4) Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdraw 5) Claim(s) 7 is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 1-4,6,8-11 and 13 is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) 5 and 12 is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or 	vn from consideration.				
Application Papers		·			
 9) The specification is objected to by the Examine 10) The drawing(s) filed on 13 January 2004 is/are: Applicant may not request that any objection to the Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correct 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examine 	a) \boxtimes accepted or b) \square objected drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See ion is required if the drawing(s) is object.	e 37 CFR 1.85(a). lected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).			
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119		•			
 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. 					
Attachment(s) 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	4) Interview Summary Paper No(s)/Mail Da	ate			
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/16/05.	5) Notice of Informal P 6) Other:	atent Application (PTO-152)			

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 6 recites the limitation "the slidable valve" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 8, 10, 11, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over MIZZY et al. (US Patent No. 3,859,996) in view of HOGAN (US Patent No. 6,264,637). Mizzy discloses a needle-free injector including a syringe assembly to expel fluid out a nozzle, and a pressurized gas delivery mechanism. Mizzy does not disclose a marking assembly to place a mark near an injection site. Hogan teaches using a marking assembly fluidly coupled to the injection device to mark an injection site having a fluid reservoir 81, nib 85, and an exhaust gas

Art Unit: 3767

pathway. The gas not directed to the injector assembly is considered the exhaust gas. See figs. 1-4; col. 6, ll. 40-50.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 7 is allowable.

Claim 6 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35

U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 5 and 12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Double Patenting

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 1, 2, 8-10, and 13 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 18 and 19 of U.S. Patent

Art Unit: 3767

No. 6,676,630. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because they each recite a needle-free injector having a syringe assembly and marking assembly activated after the injection using vented gas.

Claims 3, 4, and 11 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 18 and 19 of U.S. Patent No. 6,676,630 in view of HOGAN. Patent '630 discloses the recited invention except for a nib at the end of a fluid reservoir. Hogan discloses a nib at the end of the reservoir housing. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use the teachings of Hogan in the invention of Patent '630 in order to dispense marking fluid.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. BUNYAN (US Patent No. 5,935,111) shows a marking injector.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Hayes at (571) 272-4959. The examiner can usually be reached Monday -Thursday, 7:00-4:30, and on alternate Fridays. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kevin Sirmons, can be contacted at (571) 272-4965. The fax number for submitting official papers is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

Art Unit: 3767

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

mjh

11 October 2005

MICHAEL J. HAYES PRIMARY EXAMINER

m/ Haye